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SCIENTIFIC NOTE

Discovery of an error in the 1890 description of Pulverro columbianus (Kohl) (Hymenoptera : Sphecidae).—A study of the genus Pulverro over the past several years has revealed an error in the description of the species P. columbianus as published by Kohl in 1890 (K. K. Naturhist. Hofmus. Ann., 5: 61). The 17 specimens of this species available for study are all males and according to the catalog no females have been collected, but yet Kohl's description referred to the holotype as a female. Otherwise his description matches the male specimens in our collections. Kohl's holotype specimen is in Vienna and through the kind assistance of Dr. Max Fischer of the Naturhistorisches Museum it was loaned to me for study. The specimen is in rather poor condition with the head detached and glued to a separate point. The antennae are missing, but the terminal abdominal segments are intact and the specimen is indeed a male, so the 1890 publication is in error and the species P. columbianus is known only as males. I have established two homotypes for future reference. Collection data of the specimens studied indicates that the species P. colorado Pate is probably synonymous with P. columbianus and P. colorado has been found to be only females. The species P. monticola, which I described in 1968 (Pan-Pac. Entomol., 44: 263), is closely related to P. columbianus and the females of P. monticola show a definite resemblance to P. colorado even though there are specific, differences.—LLOYD E. EIGHME, Pacific Union College, Angwin, California 94508.